then Minister of Human Resources Development to examine the various issues regarding the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee with the assistance of a Group of Officials appointed by it went into the matter in 1986 and 1987 and listed out schemes which in their opinion, should be retained and those that could be transferred to the States or discontinued. The Committee finalised its report in 1987. The report of the NDC Committee is yet to be formally placed before the NDC. The list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes examined by the NDC Committee in 1986 and 1987 has become somewhat outmoted with the introduction of new schemes (e.g. Rozgar Yojana Schemes) and dropping of some of the earlier schemes.

2. It has been decided by the present Government that the recommendations of the NDC Committee should be taken as accepted unless it is decided by the NDC to transfer/discontinue/drop more Centrally Sponsored Schemes as a part of the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

3. A Statement indicating 113 Centrally Sponsored Schemes proposed by the NDC Committee to be transferred to the States is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in library, *See* L.T. No. 1283/91]

4. Presently, no Central Sector schemes are proposed to be transferred to the State Governments.

Supply of Food Stuff to West Bengal

*94. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has supplied the required quantity of food stuff to West Bengal during the current year;

(b) whether the problem of shortage of wagons has been sorted out with the Ministry of Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The percentage of supply of Wheat and Rice to West Bengal vis-a-vis allocation has been 82.77% during the current year, compared to 77.58% last year.

(b) and (c). Supply of Wagons by the Railways to the Food Corporation of India is an operational matter involving continuous consultations. Whenever there is a problem of Wagon we sorted out the same in consultation with the Railway Authorities.

(d) Question does not arise.

Estimated Requirement of Houses

[*Translation*]

*95. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of houses required in the urban areas of the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of houses proposed to be constructed in such areas during the Plan; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon and the extent to which the housing requirement would be met as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):

STATEMENT

(a) The Working Group on Housing set up in the context of formulation of 8th Five Year Plan proposals has estimated that during 8th Five Year Plan 9.55 million dwelling comprising 7.8 million new construction and 1.75 million upgradation will be required in the urban areas of country.

(b) and (c). Housing is a State subject and the State and Union Territory Governments are free to formulate housing schemes for various target groups in accordance with their priority and with due regard to the State Plan provisions and other resources. Apart from the public sector, private and household sector contribute considerably to increase in the housing stock.

The Sub-Group on Magnitude of Housing Problem set up by the Planning Commission has estimated that in order to meet the housing requirement as indicated at (a) above, an outlay of Rs. 57,180 crores at constant prices would be required to be provided in the public and private sector during 8th Plan period. The actual physical achievement during the plan period would; however, depend on the resources available in the 8th Plan in the public sector and the extent of house construction undertaken by the private and household sector. It is possible to estimate the likely construction of houses over 1992-97 only after the 8th Plan is finalised.

[*English*]

Benefits of Customs Duty Concessions to Customers

*96. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drugs for which customs duty concessions have been announced during the last three years and the total amount involved in terms of rupees;

(b) whether these concessions were meant to be passed on to the consumers by reducing the prices of these medicines;

(c) if so, the names of medicines whose prices have come down as a result of the customs duty concessions and the extent of relief given to the consumers in terms of rupees;

(d) whether the concessional amount is in proportion to the relief given to the consumers, if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to remedy the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The number and name of drugs for which customs duty concession have been announced during the last three years are given in the different notifications issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time, the copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. The total amount, of customs duty concession in term of rupees depends on the production in the country based on the use of such imported material.

(b) to (e). The concessions in customs duty are allowed to encourage the production of bulk drugs from a more basic stage and thereby save foreign exchange. It is not linked necessarily in every case to reduction in the price of bulk drugs. The prices of scheduled drugs are fixed from time to time in accordance with the procedures and norms laid down under the provisions of DPCO 1987. Whenever there is customsduty concession on any drug/drug intermediate, the reduced price is taken into account for fixing